

House Bill 969 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Lunsford of the 110th, Loudermilk of the 14th, Scott of the 2nd, Lewis of the 15th, Davis of the 109th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 40-5-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to exemptions from motor vehicle licensing requirements, so as to revise certain provisions relating to an exemption for out-of-state students who attend schools in this state; to amend Code Section 40-5-22 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to persons not to be licensed, minimum ages for licenses, school attendance requirements, and driving training requirements, so as to provide that a course of instruction given within the context of a bona fide home schooling program shall constitute an approved driver education training course; to amend Chapter 10 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to formulation and coordination of state and local highway safety programs, so as to provide the Governor certain authority relating to the disposition of surplus property; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION .1.

Code Section 40-5-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to exemptions from motor vehicle licensing requirements, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

"(b) Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Code Section 40-5-20 or subsection (a) of this Code section, a nonresident of this state who is attending a school in this state shall be exempt from the driver's licensing requirements of this chapter if and only if:

(1) He or she is at least 16 years of age and has in his or her immediate possession a valid license issued to him or her in his or her home state or country; provided, however, that any restrictions which would apply to a Georgia driver's license as a matter of law would apply to the privilege afforded to the out-of-state license; and

(2) He or she is currently enrolled or was enrolled during the immediately preceding period of enrollment in a school in this state, has paid for the current period of enrollment or paid for the immediately preceding period of enrollment the tuition charged by the

1 school to nonresidents of Georgia, and has in his or her possession proof of payment of
2 such tuition for such current or immediately preceding period of enrollment."

3 **SECTION 1.**

4 Code Section 40-5-22 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to persons not to
5 be licensed, minimum ages for licenses, school attendance requirements, and driving training
6 requirements, is amended by adding a new paragraph at the end of subsection (a.2) to read
7 as follows:

8 "(5) For purposes of this Code section, the term 'approved driver education training
9 course' shall include instruction given in the course of a home education program that
10 satisfies the reporting requirements of all state laws governing such programs, provided
11 that such instruction utilizes a curriculum approved by the department."

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 Chapter 10 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to formulation and
14 coordination of state and local highway safety programs, is amended by revising Code
15 Section 40-10-7, relating to specific authority and duties of the Governor, as follows:

16 "40-10-7.

17 ~~The~~ Notwithstanding the provisions of Code Section 50-5-143, the Governor is authorized
18 and granted the power to contract and to exercise any other powers which may be
19 necessary in order to ensure that all departments of the state government and local political
20 subdivisions participate to the fullest extent possible in the benefits available under the
21 National Highway Safety Act of 1966 and similar federal programs of highway safety. The
22 Governor shall formulate standards for highway safety programs for political subdivisions
23 to assure that they meet the criteria of the National Highway Safety Agency and shall
24 institute a reporting system for the local political subdivisions to report the status of their
25 programs to the state."

26 **SECTION 3.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.